

REMARKS

Claims 1-46 were pending in the application. Claims 2 and 39 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3, 38, and 40 have been amended. Claims 47-50 have been added. Claims 13-37 have been allowed. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-38, and 40-50 are pending in the application

Claims 2-6, 8, 10, 12, and 39 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates Examiner's consideration of these claims.

35 U.S.C. 102 Rejection

Claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 38, and 41-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilson (U.S. Patent # 5,054,057). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 2. Applicant submits that the amended independent claim recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner. In accordance, claim 1 is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited reference.

Claims 7, 9, and 11 depend on claim 1 and are therefore believed allowable for at least the reasons given above.

Claim 38 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 39. Applicant submits that the amended independent claim recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner. In accordance, claim 38 is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited reference.

Claims 41-46 depend on claim 38 and are therefore believed allowable for at least the reasons given above.

Applicant respectfully requests examination of added Claims 47-50.

Claim 47 includes the limitations of claim 1 and claim 5. Applicant submits that the new claim 47 recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner (see page 2 of pending Office Action). In accordance, claim 47 is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited reference.

Claim 48 includes the limitations of claim 1 and claim 6. Applicant submits that the new claim 48 recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner (see page 2 of pending Office Action). In accordance, claim 48 is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited reference.

Claim 49 depends on claim 48 and is therefore believed patentably distinguishable over the cited reference for at least the reasons given above.

Claim 50 includes the limitations of claim 1 and claim 10. Applicant submits that the new claim 50 recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner (see page 2 of pending Office Action). In accordance, claim 50 is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited reference.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If a phone interview would speed allowance of any pending claims, such is requested at the Examiner's convenience.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-02600/BNK.

Respectfully submitted,



B. Noël Kivlin
Reg. No. 33,929
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, Texas 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8800
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